

Brian Shellito/Daily Nebraskan

Boxed

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"Clapton really kicked things off," McCallum said, "and a lot of record labels followed suit."

Admittedly, not every artist has the recording history Eric Clapton can lay claim to. However, some recent sets seem appropriate.

The Jimi Hendrix "Lifelines" package attempts to provide the listener some insight into the development of the late guitar god. In addition, most of the Chess Box sets, including collections from Chuck Berry, Bo Diddley and Muddy Waters, provide listeners with access to the elemental processes of rock 'n' roll that helped create later blues-based bands like Zeppelin and Clapton's various forays.

In addition to rock and blues, listeners can find boxed sets from Hank Williams and Miles Davis. The Williams set provides a generous helping of 84 songs from the American folk legend whose influence on country music remains vast. For anyone out there who thinks Kenny G is an innovative jazz artist, the Miles Davis set may provide a welcome, or at least needed, educational experience.

"The selection of titles for the set was excellent," McCallum said, noting that the work provides an

overall portrait of the jazz man that grants more than just a superficial gloss of a highly experimental career.

On the other side of the equation is a potpourri of boxed, shrink-wrapped sounds from a number of artists who hardly excited a glimmer of recognition when they originally released their works. Now that all the songs have been remastered, restored and hermetically sealed, listeners are left with the uneasy feeling that recording studios everywhere are undergoing spring cleaning three months early.

One example is the complete Paul Revere and the Raiders set. Although the group was hardly an earthshaking force in its prime, the new offering definitely falls outside the "must have" category unless you're still living in a commune. Then there's Poco's 38-song "Forgotten Trail" collection, which limps along painfully until the listener is convinced that some things, like this set, were forgotten for the best of reasons.

No Christmas shopping experience would be complete without a bit of crass commercialism seemingly devoid of any aesthetic merit, and the boxed sets have their offerings in this area as well.

Debbie Gibson's limited edition video and cassette collection is one example. It's fairly certain the edition is "limited" only by the

general reluctance of the public to view Debbie's "Live Around the World" video, displaying her adolescent whinings before eager international audiences.

The "Madonna Royal Box" contains not only enough top-10 singles to incite the jealousy of Michael Jackson, but also a color poster and a collection of postcards. The set retails for just under \$40.

Phil Collins' latest redundant effort is also available in a video/CD box for the same price as Madonna's work. Alas, no postcards or pinups of Phil's glistening forehead are included with this 16-song live set, featuring tunes most local radio stations play on a 30-minute rotation schedule.

For the movie buff or cult freak, there's the "Rocky Horror Picture Show" four-CD set featuring two discs of "rare and unreleased" selections.

"Die-hard fans have to have it," McCallum said.

If you're going to pay \$80 for the video, another \$50 for more music might seem like pocket change.

The sheer volume of boxed sets currently available for shoppers assures that it's simply a matter of sifting through the offerings to unearth the desired collection.

"Boxed sets are us!" McCallum said. This holiday season, he's not kidding.

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2 Appliances

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6 Computers For Sale

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18 Stereos/TVs For Sale

Fender speaker cabinet with 5-12" speakers, \$120; Vox "Panther" Bass, \$100; leather biker's jacket, \$150. 474-4883.

19 Ticket Exchange

1 round trip ticket from Lincoln to Philadelphia (12/25-1/2/91), \$199. Call in the morning, 436-0490.

Lincoln to San Diego, round trip, \$210, Dec. 24-Jan. 10. Call Lina, 435-5299.

20 Vehicles For Sale

FOR SALE 1984 Fiero! Cherry Red, Great condition, AC, cruise, elec. window and locks. New tires and engine. Recently tuned up. Must sell. Call 435-5463 or 467-4958 ask for Jason or inquire about car. \$4000 or best offer.

110 Announcements

A&E reporters: please make sure I have your vacation phone numbers before you leave for break. There is an all-staff DN meeting the Saturday we get back, at noon - be there. Please turn your stories in on time the Sunday we get back - have a good break!
 Julie

Appearing at the Pla-Mor Ballroom Thursday, December 20: The Rumbles, 9:00-12:30, doors open at 8:30pm, 6600 West O St.

Are you Funny or What? Check out improv night at Walpurgisnacht 91! Call 436-6094 if interested.

GREAT TANS at SAHARA Intro-Pack 4 tans for \$5.00; some restrictions. Call 464-8797.

Guerrilla Theatre will release "First," their debut album today. It is available at Homer's, Pickle's and Twisters.

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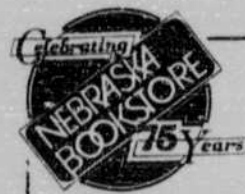
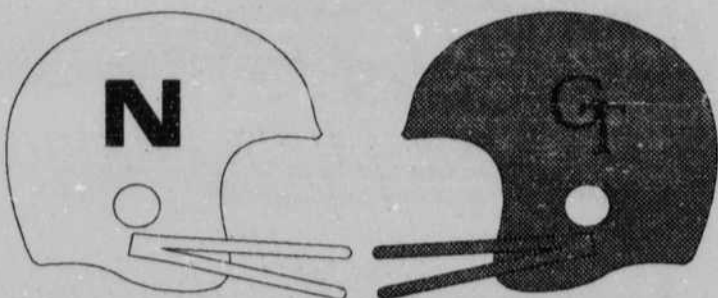
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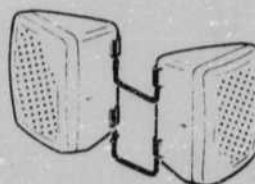


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